

**OKAUCHEE LAKE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING**

November 9, 2015 -- 7 P.M.
Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall
www.olmd.org

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

C. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Carol Wilson
Tom Godar
Bruce Mueller
Dee Schriver

Absent

Dennis Johnson

Also Present

Kathy Aron, Aron & Associates

3. Discuss & Act on an Amendment of the Current Budget to Authorize the Expenditure of \$100,000 from the Land Purchase Set Aside Fund to Provide Funds to the Town of Oconomowoc for the Purchase of Land Adjacent to West Lake Drive to be Used to Improve the Water Quality of Okauchee Lake

C. Wilson explained the necessity of holding a Special Meeting was required because of a request made by the Town of Oconomowoc to assist in a land purchase for property that would hold a retention basin that was part of a larger stormwater runoff system that was designed to improve the water quality in Okauchee Lake. Because the amount being requested was more than \$10,000.00 state statutes required that an amendment to the annual budget be made. This activity required a Special Meeting and notices were sent to all riparian owners in the Okauchee Lake Management District notifying them of this meeting. She noted the location of the proposed stormwater pond was across from the Town of Oconomowoc Police Boat garage near Foolery's.

T. Godar explained that for some time funds, typically in the amount of \$20,000.00, had been set aside annually for either leasing or acquiring property to improve water quality. The rationale for doing this each year was based on the need for flexibility in having funds available for a land purchase rather than asking riparians to provide funding in one large sum for the land purchase at the time of request which would create a financial burden. Approximately two years ago, the Town of Oconomowoc considered reconstruction of West Lake Drive and OLMD representatives invited themselves to discussions regarding improvement of a reduction in the total suspended solids going into Bay 5 which needed movement in order to avoid stagnation and to carry the water flow

into the rest of Okauchee Lake. Several options were discussed and one option was to purchase the land across from Foolery's to allow construction of a suspension pond, in conjunction with other stormwater improvements along West Lake Drive. After attending the Town meetings, listening to the Town Chair and engineers planning the project, it became clear that water quality in Okauchee Lake would be improved as a result of the system being planned. At that time, no pledges were made to the Town about participation in the project by the OLMD. The request for participation in the project in the amount of \$100,000.00 came from the Town at the October 12, 2015 OLMD meeting after approval of the annual budget at the 2015 OLMD Annual Meeting. The request was to fund less than half of the overall project that would enhance the stormwater flow and preserve the quality of Okauchee Lake. Since this request was not part of the approved budget, the item was being brought forward on tonight's agenda to allow riparian owners to participate in the discussion and action on this matter.

Kathy Aron, consultant, explained that people often tried to filter out nutrients and sediments at the last juncture point before stormwater enters a lake. This was not helpful. This project was a series of action along the roadway that would filter out sediments through two stages. The first stage removed the velocity of the flows coming from West Lake Drive. This action was important because velocity could disrupt the lake by stirring sediment. The new system would keep a flat speed to help maintain the flow into Bay 5 and reduce the damage from high velocity. The basin portion of the project would allow the stormwater to run into the basin and then filter out the sediment that would negatively impact the lake. In certain conditions, some of the flow would then enter the lake after the sediment had settled out into the basin. Often, these actions were not taken due to high project costs; however, this type of project was considered the best way to enhance water quality situations. The filter basins and sediment basin would benefit the lake by reducing the plants and algae blooms within the lake and would especially improve Bay 5.

T. Godar explained the engineers on the project had designed a series of models that showed the removal of total suspended solids (TSS) into Okauchee Lake as a result of the basin implementation. Original modeling showed removal of 40% TSS; however, the OLMD asked engineers to reach a goal of 80% TSS removal. A model of the sediment basin on West Lake Drive/Road currently showed 77% TSS removal. This was due to the series of steps taken to reduce the velocity of the flow into Bay 5 along with the implementation of the sediment basin into the overall system to improve water quality in Okauchee Lake. It was the recommendation of the OLMD Board to proceed with this matter.

Bob Hultquist, Town of Oconomowoc Board Chair, explained plans for the original stormwater system and pond had been made prior to talking to OLMD members. In order to change the original plans, it cost the Town more than \$450,000.00 to help Okauchee Lake. They were happy to do it and looked forward to the financial help.

Greg Janz, N64W33725 Lakeview Drive, questioned the total cost of the property where the basin would be constructed. B. Hultquist explained the cost was \$253,000.00.

Ron Borowski, W340N4859 Road O, questioned the amount left in the OLMD Land Purchase Fund after this project. T. Godar explained approximately \$40,000.00 would remain. R. Borowski questioned the responsibility of maintenance on the basin. B. Hultquist explained the Town would be responsible for maintaining its three retention basins, including the proposed basin. Some maintenance was expected and the Town's Public Works Department could handle the maintenance.

Terry Kultgen N64W35079 Road J, questioned how the reduction of TSS was set at 77%. K. Aron explained this information was provided based on standards used in engineering modeling software that measured data to verify scenarios and anticipated sediments based on various conditions, such as rainfall, road condition, tree cover, etc. The basin design was revised until it was at 77% sediment reduction. T. Kultgen also questioned the biggest beneficiaries as a result of this project. K. Aron noted the most direct benefit would be received by Bay 5; however, the lake mixed itself regularly and the project would benefit the entire lake. Bay 5 provided service to the overall lake through fish spawning and other habitats that were a direct data correlation to other areas of the lake. T. Kultgen also asked if there were other projects proposed that were similar to this one that would be applicable in other parts of the lake. T. Godar explained this concept was discussed in prior years. There were no projects planned at this time.

Tom Modl, N64W35035 Road J, questioned what would happen to the project if the request was not approved. T. Godar explained the Town would continue on with the project as designed; however, it seemed that the OLMD should shoulder a portion of the project. T. Modl expressed concern that it would impact the fish spawning areas and it had already overflowed into the lake. K. Aron noted there was a fear of reducing the flow too much into Bay 5 so the design did have water channeled into the lake as planned. T. Modl questioned whether the pond would be a wet pond all year round. C. Wilson explained it was similar to the basins owned by the Town near Marks Road. For years the soil erosion along Lake Drive had ended up in the lake at Bay 5. The new catch basins coming down the hill would help with slowing the soil erosion and the sediment would settle to the bottom of the new basin to reduce harm to the lake.

Dick Kindel, W340N6274 Breezy Point Road, questioned whether there were other approvals necessary for this project and if approved, when it would become operational. T. Godar explained that, if approved, all necessary OLMD approvals would have been granted and the next step would be to have an intergovernmental agreement drawn up by the Town attorney to ensure the money would be directed properly toward the land purchase.

George Garlid, N52W35185 West Lake Drive, noted it seemed late in the project planning for the Town to approach the OLMD. The engineering for the project had taken place earlier in the year and the request was being made at this time. B. Hultquist explained that OLMD representatives, Dennis Johnson and Tom Godar, met with the Town more than one year ago regarding this project. That was the first time the Town was approached about changing the water quality portion of the planned project. Since

that time several public Town meetings were set up to discuss the project. T. Godar noted this project was not something regularly done. The meeting on this project should have taken place earlier in the summer in order to allow the funding to be placed in the budget with approval at the Annual Meeting. If approval was not granted for the project at this meeting, the Town would proceed with the project as planned. It was important to note the Town was looking at the best interest of Okauchee Lake in the planned project. For this reason, he had no issue with the project. There was not enough information available in order to be able to get approvals at the Annual Meeting. The approval request was being presented at this time as a result.

K. Aron noted the approval being requested was made after original modeling provided data that was not high enough for the OLMD to provide an investment. After the changes were made to the models, then the OLMD could consider whether investment in the project should take place. T. Godar noted the Town and OLMD did have good faith discussions, but there could be no participation in the project without it meeting the objectives of OLMD goals.

Mark Prange, W334N5897 Road M, questioned the purposes of the Land Purchase Fund. T. Godar explained there were multiple purposes for acquiring land. If the general purpose identified for the land related to improvement of water quality or reduction of pollutants, then it might be considered for purchase, rent or lease. M. Prange questioned the state of the current OLMD debt. D. Schriver explained there was approximately \$37,000.00 in debt remaining for repayment. The equipment loan had been paid off. Each year the OLMD contributed approximately one-third of anticipated replacement needs to that fund in order to be able to maintain or replace necessary equipment. B. Hultquist noted the request for funding was for the land and development of it for water quality improvements to Okauchee Lake.

C. Wilson moved to approve an amendment of the current budget to authorize the expenditure of \$100,000.00 from the Land Purchase Set Aside Fund to provide funds to the Town of Oconomowoc for the purchase of land adjacent to West Lake Drive to be used to improve the water quality of Okauchee Lake. Dick Kindel seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

B. Hultquist thanked all present on behalf of the Town of Oconomowoc.

4. Adjournment

T. Godar moved to adjourn the November 9, 2015 Okauchee Lake Management District meeting. B. Hultquist seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.